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NOTES ON A HITHERTO UNDESCRIBED HYDROID FROM LONG ISLAND SOUND.

CHAS. W. HARGITT.¹

Early during the present year I received from Dr. Henry R. Linville, of New York City, a small collection of hydroids for examination, among which was found what clearly appears to be a new species. The specimens were collected by Dr. Linville during the previous August near East Marion, Long Island. In a letter to the writer he describes the habitat as follows :

"The species was found growing on rocks and piles under 'Milldam Bridge,' west of Shelter Island. The bridge spans a narrow creek which connects the Bay with a shallow salt-water pond."

In size and general features the hydroid resembles very much *Syncoryne mirabilis*, and was at first thought to be that species. A more critical examination showed this to be more than doubtful, as the number of tentacles, character of the hydranth, and above all the character of gonophores, all indicated otherwise, and a review of the accessible literature failed to afford any clue to the identity of the species, though it seems clearly a member of the genus above named as will be seen from the sketch.

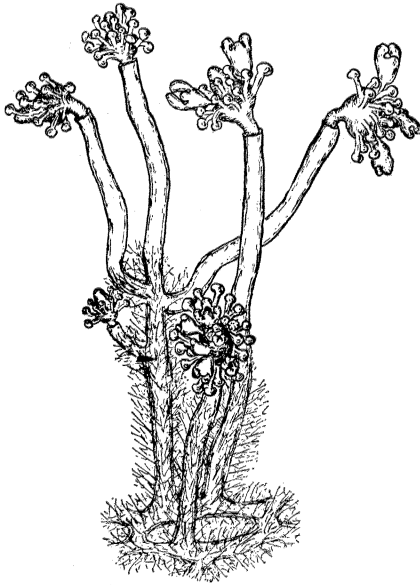
The medusa-buds are relatively large and grow in clusters of from two to four upon the body of the hydranths usually close among the tentacles. I regret that no free medusæ were obtained and that only an incomplete description of this organism can be made. As will be observed from the figure the medusæ present the somewhat unusual condition of having at this stage two of the tentacles quite well developed, though short and thick, at opposite positions on the margin of the umbrella. The intermediate pair can hardly be distinguished, being mere buds, and it is impossible to say whether they later develop or not ; indeed, it remains doubtful as to the later phases of development of almost all the medusoid organs, though there can hardly be serious doubt as to the ultimate freedom of the medusæ, as there were

¹ Contributions from the Zoölogical Laboratory, Syracuse University.

no signs of the development of gonads, a condition almost certain to have been found in case the gonophores remain sessile.

The following diagnostic characters will serve to distinguish the species, at least so far as the hydroid phase is concerned, for which the name *Syncoryne linvillei* is proposed :

Trophosome. — Colony growing in tufts, sparingly branched, to a height of 15 to 30 mm., and with the same general aspects as characterize *S. mirabilis* Ag. Hydranths vasiform, with cone-



Portion of colony of *Syncoryne linvillei* about three times natural size.

shaped proboscis ; tentacles definitely capitate, from 15 to 30 in number, and variously distributed over the proximal third of the hydranth body. Perisarc much as in *S. mirabilis*, plain, or with only the slightest trace of any annulation, ending somewhat abruptly below the base of hydranths, proximal or basal portion dense or brownish in color. Hydrorhiza more or less reticulated, forming a loose network over the substratum. In all the type specimens both hydrorhiza and hydrocaulus were enmeshed in a dense sponge-like mass, though its exact nature is doubtful.

Gonosome. — Medusa buds borne on body of hydranth, usually in small clusters among the bases of the tentacles and supported by a single peduncle, the terminal specimen always maturing

first. In the type specimens no free medusæ were present, though there were numerous buds approaching full development. The umbrella is distinctly bell-shaped, with four radial canals; tentacles unequally developed, two on opposite sides large and club-shaped, the intermediate pair small and bud-like. No ocelli distinguishable.

Colors. — Formalin material pale yellowish, hydranths somewhat brownish; gonophores reddish brown or pink.

Habitat. — Growing in tufts upon small rock fragments, bits of bark or on shelly concretions; the bases of stems tangled or enmeshed in sponge-like masses, the tufts and spicules of which give to the colonies a rough and bristly aspect.